

Assistant Director for National Estimates

15 September

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Revised Draft of Annex A on NSC 68 Programs

1. The attached draft appears to flow smoothly and is a distinct improvement over the original; at the same time it preserves almost all of the main thoughts of the original draft, which was very hastily prepared to meet an urgent NSC staff need.

2. It was necessary to use discretion and to make a few editorial changes at small various points where hurried drafting in committee left an awkward transition or the meaning was not clear.

3. Paragraphs 13, 24, 33, 42, and 43 are either new or substantially revised and may call for closer attention than the others.

4. I feel that a large part of our difficulty with the IAC representatives arose because they did not grasp the type of paper we were attempting to write. [REDACTED] and I made a careful and conscientious effort to produce a forecast which was couched in NSC terminology and would fit into an NSC paper which transcended the narrow intelligence field. Particularly in our conclusions we sought to prepare a rounded estimate of our future power position vis-a-vis the USSR, as requested by the NSC staff. We also sought to avoid the recurrent tendency of intelligence people to see only the enemy side of the picture and thus to view with undue alarm.

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16. DECLASSIFIED

NO CHANGE IN CLASS.

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